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A.—(a) Salem has one major irrigation system, 116 minor irrigation works in charge of the Public Works Department and 2,432 minor irrigation works in charge of the Revenue Department.

(b) No. A number of projects have been examined from time to time and found impracticable.

(c) One new project is now in progress, and two are under consideration.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar:—"The answer to clause (b) is 'no'. May I know whether the attention of the hon. Member has been drawn to the various sources of irrigation referred to in Lefanoe's Manual?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"No, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for drawing my attention to it."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask whether, in view of the fact that the Government have not found any means of further irrigation of Salem, they will extend the existing Cauvery channels?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"I am not sure whether it is possible to do so."

Failure of the supply channels from the Cauvery in Namakkal taluk.

* 408 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was total failure of water-supply in the channels (leading from the Cauvery) in Namakkal taluk of Salem district for more than 20 days at a stretch;

(b) whether huge losses have been incurred by the ryots on account of this failure; and

(c) whether the Government contemplate to enquire into the matter and take immediate steps to redress the grievances of the distressed ryots and grant a generous remission in the land-tax?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) The Government do not consider it necessary to order any special enquiries as the matter can be dealt with by the local officers under the ordinary rules in the Board's Standing Orders.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar:—"With regard to (a) and (b), the Government say they have no information. Will they be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"Yes, Sir."

Supply of water from Mettur dam to Salem and Coimbatore districts for irrigation.

* 409 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have taken or propose to take any steps regarding the supply of water for

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Salem and Coimbatore districts from Mettur dam for irrigation purposes, after the cut motion was carried in the Council on 16th March last?

A.—No.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"May I know why no action was taken?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Orders on the question have either been published in the Press or placed on the table of this House."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"The question refers to Salem and Coimbatore districts. May I ask the Government to state whether they do not propose to give further irrigation facilities to the Coimbatore district?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Not under the Mettur project."

Agreement between Government and the ryots of the Vadavar Ayacut.

* 410 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any agreement entered into between the Government on the one hand and the ryots of the Vadavar ayacut on the other between the years 1800—1840; and

(*b*) if so, what were the terms of the agreement and whether a copy of the agreement will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have called for a report.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the report has since been received?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Will he expedite it, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"It will take some time to search for the papers. We have had reports that no agreement can be found in the Madras Records office, or in the Superintending Engineer's office or in the Executive Engineer's office. We are awaiting reports from the Collectors."

Clearance of silt in the Buckingham Canal.

* 411 *Q.*—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total expenditure incurred in each of the last three years, (i) on the clearance of silt from the Buckingham Canal and (ii) the other improvements to the sections of the said canal situated (1) to the south of Madras and (2) to the north of Madras;

(*b*) the length of the section of the said canal situated to the north of Madras and south of Madras;